

Appl. No. : 10/772,779
Filed : February 5, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0041] of the published application with the following amended paragraph:

[0041] The illustrated keel section 102 has a generally horizontal bottom surface 112 and generally vertical side surfaces 114. The generally horizontal surface 112 extends generally horizontally at a lower elevation than the bottom surface 110 of the primary section 100. The generally vertical surfaces 114 extend generally vertically but ~~[[a]]~~ **are** shaped such that the keel section 102 is slightly tapered downward. The generally vertical surfaces 114 connect the generally horizontal surface 112 of the keel section 102 to the bottom surface 110 of the primary section 100. In the illustrated embodiment, a lower portion of the vertical surfaces 114 (i.e., below a line 116) is generally straight downward rather than being tapered. Preferably, a portion of the keel section 102 located in a center area of the ski 60 in the longitudinal direction is larger than other portions of the keel section 102. The keel section 102, particularly, the vertical surfaces 114, reduce the likelihood of lateral skidding of the ski 60.

Please replace paragraph [0061] of the published application with the following amended paragraph:

[0061] The illustrated ski 60A is generally symmetrical relative to the longitudinal center plane CP. In one variation, ~~an unsymmetrical~~ **a nonsymmetrical** shape can be practicable. Either the front portions 106aA or the rear portions 106bA of the generally horizontal sections 106A can be linear in the center portions 106cA. Also, the horizontal sections 106 can be widened in any suitable configuration, ~~[[are]]~~ **as** applicable. For example but without limitation, a wave configuration and a rectangular configuration can be used.